

**From:** ccarlsen1@compuserve.com@inetgw  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/25/02 4:22pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft settlement

2903 116th Avenue, NE  
Lake Stevens, Washington 98258

January 25, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I would like to start off by saying that I am not a strong supporter of Microsoft. I don't really have any strong ties to them, but I don't agree with the antitrust suit against them. The settlement that was made between Microsoft and the Department of Justice is more than fair, and it is time this matter was over with. Millions of state and federal dollars have been wasted on this suit. The United States is based upon a free enterprise system; while we may not always agree with the tactics employed by big business, our interference in business undermines the very foundation this nation has been built upon.

Microsoft has agreed to terms that will enable other companies to compete. They have to license the internal codes of Windows to the top twenty companies so they can produce software that is compatible with Windows. Because of the competition that will arise from this settlement a wider variety of products will emerge. So now, not only will the consumer have a better product, but the prices will be more reasonable. Also, Microsoft will be forced to produce a better product in order to stay competitive.

I would like to reiterate that I am not writing this letter because the issue is personal to me. I am not a huge stockholder and I know no one who works for Microsoft. I do know what is right though, and ending this ridiculous suit against Microsoft is the right thing to do. Thank-you.

Sincerely,

Carl Carlsen